

NOW

NUMISMATISTS OF WISCONSIN

NEWS

VOLUME 11

NO. 4

SILVER BAR COLLECTING

The phenomena of the one ounce silver bar will probably fuel the numismatic hot stove league in many winters to come, but with this strange hobby happening only a few years old, and really only in its first full "big year," an examination of the subject is in order. The first real influx of the one ounce silver bars to the numismatic market began in about 1968 and post dates the end of regular mint 40% silver coinage by the federal government (perhaps significant). Silver medals and ingot like offerings had popped up off and on prior to the one ounce bar craze but the .999 fine silver bar in 1968 became frequently offered as a "collector's item" rather than a hedge against inflation. The design of the silver bar collectables vary greatly in subject but have in common a price factor that runs about twice the bullion value in silver or closely paralleling the U.S. silver dollar bullion which runs just short of one ounce. What then is the appeal of the one ounce silver bar? First of all, the extremely wide and varied design offerings give the "something for everyone" aspect to the collector. Secondly the collector personality is compromised by Historic, Memorable, Satirical and Humorous subjects that will "turn on" nearly everyone no matter young

or old, new collector or veteran. Add to this State and Subject Sets and you have touched many, many collectors. The beauty of the majority of the bars shows evidence of par excellance in design and striking and surely not last nor least, the bars are of SILVER, a beautiful, cherished metal that is sadly lacking in coinage throughout the world today. If the price of .999 fine silver collectables does not run wild (and there are some steady forces among the manufacturers), it is quite possible that silver bar collecting will continue to fascinate the numismatist as it has in 1973, and though "thought perished" by old line numismatic purists, there seems to be a place, non-speculative, in the hobby for this brash newcomer.



Chet Krause in his COIN PRICES magazine has begun a pictorial listing of bars that will later be used as text of an illustrated book on silver bars. This, along with several reasonably priced albums for displaying

bars, have opened the field to many persons who underestimated or overlooked the scope of the one ounce bar's charisma.

Past Board Member of N.O.W., William "Bill" Spencer of Racine has added the dimension of wood beauty to silver bar collecting by designing a number of cleverly shaped plaques that house the bars for wall display anywhere in the home. Beautiful wood grain and clear plastic facings protect and enhance the natural beauty of the prooflike silver bars. What does the future hold for the one ounce silver bar? Your guess is as good as mine, but having seen a nearly complete set of these interesting collectables, your editor feels that the ground floor is rapidly fading and that a comprehensive collection must be gathered now.



H. Prieve - Photo

Remember the beautiful displays of Virgil Jackson that dominated the exhibit scene in the 1960's? Well the spark is still there, as evidenced by this dandy "one case" show by the Jacksons at Baraboo Show.

Mail us your
club
news!



NEW WISCONSIN SHOP

The Tri-State Coin & Investment Coin Shop opened its doors September 4 in LaCrosse. Popular Wisconsin collector-dealer Steve Koelbl has opened the shop in Suite 317 of the State Bank Building at 4th and Main Street in LaCrosse. The shop will carry a complete line of quality coins and supplies.

Steve, who has been collecting since 1964, has been a part-time dealer since 1968. Store hours are 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. daily and 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. on Saturday.

CLEVER CARD DEPARTMENT

*I Can't Give You a
Big Cadillac
But I Can Give You a
New Lincoln !!*

Coins Bought - Sold - Appraised
COLLINS COIN & STAMP SHOP
1919 W. Lincoln Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.



672-2130

NUMISMATISTS OF WISCONSIN

N.O.W. SHOW DATE CHANGED

The 1974 edition of the annual N.O.W. Show has been rescheduled to the weekend of May 4 and 5 in the beautiful domed Waukesha Expo Center. Due to a conflict with the Central States Show that will be held on May 10-12, the Wisconsin state show was moved one week ahead. The spacious Waukesha Expo Center will house a record N.O.W. bourse of sixty dealers from throughout the midwest and also have a large exhibit area to accommodate what should be the largest number of exhibit cases ever displayed at a state show.



The 1973 Racine N.O.W. bronze medal is available for sale to interested persons at \$1.00 each plus a stamped self-addressed envelope. Also still available are bronze medals from the 1964, 1969, and 1972 Madison shows, 1965 and 1970 Green Bay shows, 1966 La Crosse show, 1967 Milwaukee show, 1971 Wausau show, and 1968 Racine show. All are \$1.00 each plus S.A.E. Order from:

Custodian of Medals
1921 Chase Street
Wisconsin Rapids, Wis. 54494

Did you hear the one about the German counterfeiter who went to printers school but failed because he made BAD MARKS?

- PORTAGE COIN NEWS

WHAT IS N.O.W.?

N.O.W. is communication:

- Communication between clubs in settling show dates, idea exchange on banquets, picnics, awards, door prizes, meeting programs, youth programs, and all the things clubs want to offer their members.
- Communication between people (members) - ideas on displays, recognition of excellence, recognition of service, the light side of numismatics, club officers, committee workers, and personal projects of merit.
- Communication between local clubs and members and the American Numismatic Association.

Ever conscious of the need to transmit information in both directions concerning collectors insurance, coin attribution, undesirable persons within our hobby, services needed that can be provided, and regional services needed.

Yes, fellow collectors, N.O.W. is communications. Communications to make our hobby more enjoyable, safer to enjoy, free from subterfuge, and broader to avoid stagnation.



Milwaukee club workers for longer than most people can remember, Tony Tramte (L) and Del Bertschy take a break during the "really big show" at the Red Carpet Expo.



The first woman ever to head the American Numismatic Association began her presidential duties following the announcement of election results at the 82nd Annual A.N.A. Convention August 23-27 in Boston.

Mrs. Virginia Culver defeated Grover C. Criswell by a narrow margin in the race for ANA's top office. Mrs. Culver received 6,677 votes; Criswell got 5,922 votes. Serving as Vice-President for the next two years will be George D. Hatie who ran unopposed for that office.

A record number of ANA members voted in this year's election with about 14,000 ballots cast. That figure represents about half of the Association's total membership.

- THE NUMISMATIST

Young Numismatist Course Successful

The Young Numismatist Correspondence Course, a 15-lesson self-teaching method for young coin collectors, has succeeded beyond the hopes of its administrator, the American Numismatic Association.

More than 300 people - including experienced, older numismatists - have registered for the training, according to Kenneth L. Hallenbeck, Jr., ANA Governor in charge of program.

Wisconsin youngsters wishing to apply for the correspondence course should contact:

ANA Headquarters
P.O. Box 2366
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80901

NEWS BRIEFS

New A.N.A. President Virginia Culver has appointed Kurt Krueger to the A.N.A. Young Numismatist Committee. This, on the heels of Kurt's appointment to the Governing Board of Central States. (Busy fellow!)

Chet Krause was the featured speaker at the 18th Annual Banquet of the Wisconsin Valley Coin Club of Wausau.

Illinois all-star exhibitor Jack Huggins (N.O.W. #1019) has been elected to the presidency of the Illinois State Numismatic Association (I.L.L.N.A.).

"The trip to Boston was most pleasant. I was delighted to gather 3,655 votes in the A.N.A. election. I am planning to run for A.N.A. Board in 1975."

- Kurt Krueger

Yeoman Gives Collection Of 1,764 Coins to ANA

R.S. (Dick) Yeoman, (N.O.W. #12), author of the Red Book, Blue Book, and Catalog of Modern World Coins, has donated 1,764 world coins from his personal reference collection to the American Numismatic Association Museum.

The coins had been used as references to compile William D. Craig's book, COINS OF THE WORLD 1750-1850, and Yeoman's own works on more modern specimens.

An ANA spokesman said "very few" of the pieces were duplicated in the museum's world collection. Museum display and layout specialists will soon visit ANA Headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colorado to formulate plans for exhibiting the Yeoman donation and other collections.



A record of continuing exhibit excellence is the Baraboo Summer Show Story. The 1973 exhibits were varied and of top quality.

place to sit and rest moment. Here is one ingredient of a successful coin show that receives little publicity.
(Baraboo Show)



Harvey Binder of Beaver Dam judges exhibits at the Fond du Lac Coin Show. N.O.W. Exhibit System Rules were used at nearly all local shows in 1973.



LaCrosse Coin Show brought out two long-time area numismatists: Token Catalogue Bill White (L) and Past N.O.W.Governor Greg McHenry.

The beautiful gold coin exhibit of Jerry Lenser (L) is examined by N.O.W. President Dick Anderson at the La-Crosse Show.



Baraboo Coin Show registration table is manned by Donald Benke (L) and Warren Bidwell. Attendance was again strong for the mid-summer show.



Fond du Lac Fall Show had fine crowds and kept Racine dealer Bill Spencer hopping. In addition to coins and supplies, Bill also displays custom plastic wares of his own manufacture.



onversational charisma is the trademark of these Illinois dealers. Roman Drysch (L) and Jack Schultz seem to enjoy the shows and keep things on the right side. (Milwaukee Fall Show)



Milwaukee Awards Breakfast held in the Red Carpet Inn was well attended and a very pleasant affair.

Wisconsin

- by Daisy Jackson
Beaver Dam, Wis.

This past summer we all have watched with interest and followed the re-enactment of the 2900-mile trip that the modern voyagers took, following the history-making trip of Father Jacques Marquette and Louis Jolliet in 1673. Reid Lewis portrayed Jolliet while Rev. Charles McEnery, a Jesuit priest portrayed Marquette. We were fortunate in having a very fine commemorative half-dollar struck in 1936 for the Wisconsin Territorial Centennial. It not only honors the 100 years of history but the more than 300 years of exploration and development of our fine state. In the following story I will try to brief you on how this coin was designed and some of the pertinent data associated with it.

The Wisconsin Territorial Commemorative was designed by David Parsons, a student at the University of Wisconsin. A new York artist, Benjamin Hawkins, made changes in this coin design to conform with technical requirements and when finished, his initial "H" appears below the Badger.

The Reverse: A Badger (the state animal) to left on a log. In the background, three arrows and a stalk of wheat arranged vertically, a reference to war with the Indians and their "pacification" which opened the way for the Territory of Wisconsin to be formed. Around is statutory inscription.

The Obverse: Seal of the Territory of Wisconsin consisting of an arm holding a pickaxe over a pile of lead ore with the inscription "4TH DAY OF JULY ANNO DOMINI 1836" below. Around the edge is the inscription "WISCONSIN TERRITORIAL CENTENNIAL 1936."

This coin does not commemorate the Centennial of the State but of the Territory, which was formed in 1836.

Wisconsin did not become a state until 1848. On May 15, 1936 there were 25,015 coins minted. The selling price at this time was \$1.50 each. Now the price is \$32.50 and up to \$65 for Uncirculated.

The commemorative half-dollar carries the distinction of being the one coin that writers and numismatic authorities do not agree on which is the reverse and obverse. How about that?

There are several opinions regarding the origin of the word "Wisconsin." One suggested by Louise Kellogg, who was an authority on Wisconsin history, is that "The state derived its name from the principal river which runs centrally through it. The Chippewas upon its headwaters called this river Wee-Konsan which signifies 'the gathering of the waters.' They gave it this name, as an Indian trader said it was, because of its numerous branches near its head concentrated into one stream.

Wisconsin had a nickname "Badger" which was associated with the miners of the southwest. During the mining boom which began just prior to 1830 in the southwestern portion of the state, the people from Illinois who were mining came during the good season as did the "suckers" while the people from Wisconsin, too busy digging either to leave or to build houses, moved into abandoned mine shafts to live and thus became known as "Badgers."

Wisconsin is called America's Dairyland. It is known for its dairy industry throughout the world. It means many things to many people. Their homeland, the Green Bay Packers, milk, cheese, beer, shoes, cars, farm and other machinery, fountain pens, peas, corn, cranberries, paper mills, numismatic supplies, land of trees, lakes, rolling farm lands, the great universities, and an outstanding system of vocational education, the Republican Party, first workman's compensation law, unemployment compen-

WISCONSIN (Continued)

sation law, aid to the blind, dependent children and old-age assistance, and the first successful Income Tax Law.

State Flag: In 1863 the state flag was to be dark blue silk, 6'-6" by 6' in size with the coat of arms of the state on one side and the coat of arms of the United States on the other side. In 1913 the state flag was changed to 5'-6" by 4'-4" on the pike; the state coat of arms embroidered on each side with silk of appropriate colors; the edges trimmed with knotted fringe of yellow silk 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide; the pike 9' long including spearhead and ferrule; the cord 8'-6" long with two tassels and composed of blue and white silk strands intermixed. Wisconsin is the 30th star in our national flag.

State Seal: The official seals were changed several times. In 1881 it was changed as follows: bearing a plow; a crossed shovel and pick; an arm holding a hammer; an anchor. The base of the shield resting upon a horn of plenty, and a pyramid of pig lead; the arms and motto of the United States. The supporter of the coat of arms a sailor holding a coil of rope, over the crest is a badger and the motto "Forward."

The first Wisconsin Capitol was located at Belmont and now is a State Park.

Wisconsin Symbols:

State Flower - Wood Violet
State Tree - Sugar Maple
State Bird - Robin
State Fish - Muskellunge
State Animal - Badger
State Wildlife Animal - White-Tail Deer

State Song - On Wisconsin
(Written in 1909 by Carl Beck & Wm. T. Purdy, as a university football song. In 1913 some of the words On, Wisconsin was changed by J.S. Hubbard & Chas. D. Rosa. Adopted as the official state song by the Wisconsin Legislature in 1959.)



Attractive Wisconsin commemorative half dollar designed by university student, David Parsons.

(V. Jackson Photo)



EVERYONE READS
N.O.W. NEWS

PLACES IN THE NEWS

OSHKOSH COIN CLUB ANNUAL DINNER

The annual banquet of the Oshkosh Coin Club was held October 17 with 67 members and their guests attending. Robert Zelhofer, the President-Elect, introduced the rest of the newly elected officers. They are:

Vice-President - Frank Allen
Sec.-Treasurer - Irene Blanchette
Librarian - Bob Woodland
Board Members: Larry Spanbauer
 Harold Helm
 Bill Wrasse
 Al Luck
 (Also the seated officers)

Elizabeth Neumueller was honored with a plaque in appreciation for her work at the registration desk of every annual Jamboree for the past 13 years. Liz has also had a perfect attendance record for meetings for 11 years out of the 13 that the club has been in existence.

In other presentations, Past President Larry Spanbauer was given a gift of appreciation from the club for his past two years as President. Bill Romans, last year's winner of the Luker Traveling Trophy, presented the trophy to Howard Wilson, a junior member, as this year's winner. (This trophy is awarded to the member who has been most active in club affairs during the year. The name is kept secret until the night of the annual dinner.) Bill Romans was then given a permanent trophy as last year's winner. Gary Hopkins was awarded a small permanent trophy as winner of this year's Blanchette Memorial Trophy.

Miriam and Clem "Bananas" Bailey were special guests at the dinner. Clem gave a demonstration on his Bongo drums. He is really quite good. A half-hour film from the Franklin Mint on the First Coinage of the British Virgin Islands was shown.

Harold Helm
Corresponding Secretary

PRIVATE ENTERPRISE IN THE GOVERNMENT
BALLIWIK, THE SUCCESS STORY OF THE

Franklin Mint

The Franklin Mint is the world's largest and foremost private mint and at present is the only non-government mint in the United States that produces legal tender coin for foreign countries. Foreign coins, however, represent just a small part of its work. The Mint is best known for its many series of commemorative medals which are usually struck in solid sterling silver and issued in limited edition.

In 1970 The Franklin Mint moved into its new headquarters at Franklin Center, Pennsylvania, 17 miles southwest of Philadelphia. Approximately 1,100 people are employed at this location. This new plant is one of the largest mints in the world, surpassed in size only by government mints in large nations.

Sterling silver is melted and cast at The Franklin Mint in a continuous operation that can process as much as 50 million ounces of silver per year. This high-quality sterling silver is rolled, blanked, polished, and minted into finished coins, medals, and other collectors' items under one roof, and most of these operations are on view to visitors.

The Franklin Mint "clean room" contains the most modern proof coining operation in the world. Each employee entering the room must first don special garments and then pass through an air shower which removes loose dust particles from his person. Constant temperature and humidity controls are maintained and the air is changed every 90 seconds.

The Franklin Mint was one of the first mints in the world to install closed circuit television for continuous surveillance. It also maintains many other protective systems, backed up by a large force of specially trained security guards.

Newsmakers

EXHIBIT WINNERS

BARABOO

Best of Show - Leo Neidinger
First - Jerry Lenser
Second - Kurt Krueger
Third Bruno Melitz

Junior

First - Robert Lee
Second - Judy Prieve
Third - Tom Neidinger

LACROSSE

Best of Show - Paul Wendling)
 Jerry Lenser) Tie
Second - Gene Lenser
Third - T.J. Kotche
People's Choice - Paul Wendling

Junior

First - Jeff Lock
Second - Scott Manthe

OCONOMOWOC

Best of Show - Leo Neidinger
First - Dick Phelps
 Leo Neidinger
 Bob Lee
Second - Roger Radtke
 Irene Neidinger
 Bruno Melitz
Third - Dick Stone
 Tom Armstrong
 Bruno Melitz

Junior

First - Steve Helms
Second - Tom Neidinger

People's Choice - Harold Collins

FOND DU LAC

Best of Show - Leo Neidinger
First - Steve Helms
 Irene Neidinger
 John Flood

Junior First - Steve Helms

Alex Kaiser Memorial Award - Mark Lauby

MILWAUKEE

Best of Show - Leo Neidinger

First - Leo Neidinger
 Tom Snyder
 Bob Lee
 Bruno Melitz
 Tom Neidinger

Second - Dick Phelps
 Rich Radtke
 Bruno Melitz
 Chuck Opitz
 Irene Neidinger

Third - Bill Fuchs
 Bill Fuchs
 Bob Lee
 Mrs. Ray Lindquist
 Del Bertschy



The "MAN FROM WAUKESHA" Leo Neidinger spent much of spring and fall repeating this little performance. Leo won Best of Show with his exhibits at nearly all the Wisconsin shows this year. In the above photo Milwaukee Club President Kurt Krueger (R) hands over the 1973 Milwaukee B.O.S. Award.

SILVER SAGA

The late Gen. Leslie Groves was one of America's "authentic Heroes," a bureaucratic Robin Hood who took from the treasury and gave to the military.

Groves took over almost all of the nation's silver supply during World War II - about \$500 million worth - to make coils for huge electromagnetic plant he was secretly building at Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Groves, who died in 1970, directed the development of the atomic bomb.

Historians honor him by saying he pulled off "the greatest treasury raid in American History." Groves, who attended West Point, knew the Treasury Department had a huge cache of silver ingots near the military academy.

Groves "stormed into the office of Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau and demanded - demanded - almost all the country's silver supply," Hosmer said. He got it - 427,814,149.02 Troy ounces.

Only "a mere 2 million ounces" was used in the six magnetic coils at Oak Ridge, Hosmer said. The rest of it, also turned into coils, was "baled like so much hay" and lay around until after the war.

THE TREASURY Department dropped hints that it wanted the silver back, but the Post-War Atomic Energy Commission, which gained possession of it didn't listen. Then "came the great silver shortage of the last few years. The situation was so bad that we had to start taking the silver out of U.S. coinage."

The AEC finally gave in to pressure and in April 1969 returned the silver - minus the 2 million ounces at Oak Ridge - and about 260,000 ounces lost in smelting.

Hosmer said the return of the silver was kept as secret as the original turnover because of fear "that knowledge of the Treasury's desperate need to recoup its silver might upset the international silver market."

NEARLY 5000 ounces were stolen while the shipment was laid over for a weekend at Newark, N.J., despite the tight security. An insurance company finally agreed to pay \$1.976 an ounce for the stolen silver after a long argument as to the price because of the fluctuating market at the time.

In 1971 the AEC paid the TREASURY \$536,802.72, the value of the silver it used calculated at \$1.29 an ounce.

Thus, over a quarter of a century later the books are finally closed on Gen. Leslie Groves' great treasury raid.

Poet's Nook

THE ROMANCE OF THE WELL-WORN COIN

This worn coin ----

Where has it been,
What did it there?
Was it thoughtfully spent
or used without care?

Did it sail the high seas...
go to war?
The baseball game,
the candy store?

Did it buy a pretty ribbon
or fun at the fair?
Was it bid at the auction;
was it lost there?

Did it play the nickelodeon,
buy tickets at the dance?
Spend an evening at the bar,
win a game of chance?

Did it feed a hungry child,
or help a stranger that did roam?
Was it someone's pocket piece?
Will it ever go back home?

- Dennis W. Loomis



Editorial

Wisconsin clubs would be well advised to examine show procedures in the light of the state of Wisconsin's "get tough" policy in the area of drawing and door prize raffles. Within the last year several statewide raffles and dozens of local celebration raffles have been "closed down" by Wisconsin vice agents and though legal actions were not generally instigated by the state, a great deal of inconvenience was caused by the enforcement of the law prohibiting the sale of drawing tickets. In most cases Wisconsin coin club raffles are thinly disguised as "honorary memberships" or "contributions" and these disguises do not mollify state agents. If this important source of coin show revenue should be dried up by a strict enforcement of statutes already on the Wisconsin books, clubs will find little other revenue than the paid bourse. One important source of revenue has as yet been untapped by any coin club in Wisconsin, this being an entrance fee such as is used at nearly all antique shows and indoor flea markets.

It is not unusual to find a fee ranging from 25¢ to \$1.50 charged at these events. The entrance fee, though seldom used at coin shows in the United States, is a regular feature at European coin shows where the fee generally runs \$1.75. In the case of two-day shows, the \$1.75 usually is reduced to \$1.00 for the second day, with a pass arrangement made for exhibitors and persons attending for both days (guests attending from out of town). Perhaps a small trial of this concept will surface on the Wisconsin coin show scene in 1974. It would seem that a 25¢ fee for adults with all children admitted free at a one-day show would add at least \$50 revenue to most Wisconsin shows.

A.N.A. SLIDES

Liven your winter club meetings this year with A.N.A. slides. Write to:

Audio Visual Educational Program
P.O. Box 2366
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80901

BUILDING AN EXHIBIT FOR 1974?
HERE'S WHAT THE EXPERTS SAY!

1. Numismatic information: It is important that you include as much numismatic information as is possible. This information should be aimed at enlightening your fellow coin collectors and also those who may not be collectors. Care should be taken to correctly spell all terms and use proper phraseology.
2. It is important to have an original title for your exhibit rather than copying another you have seen.
3. Be careful not to include any misinformation as this lowers the calibre of your exhibit.

Research is important; always double check, as authors have been known to make errors. The degree of information and accuracy reflects the amount of effort that you have used in presenting your exhibit. Neatness is important.
4. Arrangement of your items in the exhibit should indicate some display ability. The number of items is not as important as having given the full picture.
5. Rarity or condition is of lesser importance but try to avoid a great variety of conditions in one exhibit. Consistency of condition makes for a better display.
6. Your exhibit should have a focal point or center of interest. This would be the item or items that have the most dramatic impact and appeal pertaining to your theme. This does not have to be your most expensive item but one of the greatest interest.
7. The most important phase of exhibiting is to make up your mind well in advance of the show, carefully plan your exhibit and enlist fellow club members' opinions in upgrading weak areas.

NUMISMATIC BOOKS
MAKE GREAT CHRISTMAS
GIFT GIVING

STANDARD CATALOG of WORLD COINS

The new 1974 edition of THE STANDARD CATALOG OF WORLD COINS compiled under the direction of Chester L.Krause and Clifford Mishler has been released as of November 1.

Completely revised throughout, this second edition has been eagerly awaited by collectors since the first edition sold out in early 1973. In addition to revising the existing listings, Chet and Cliff have added comprehensive new listings of gold issues and pre-1850 coins for many countries.

This 864-page volume is keyed to visual identification of coins, a mission carried forward with the presentation of more than 17,000 original coin photos and comprehensive listings by date, including many previously unrecorded type, variety, and quasi-coin issues which provide puzzlement to the uninitiated.

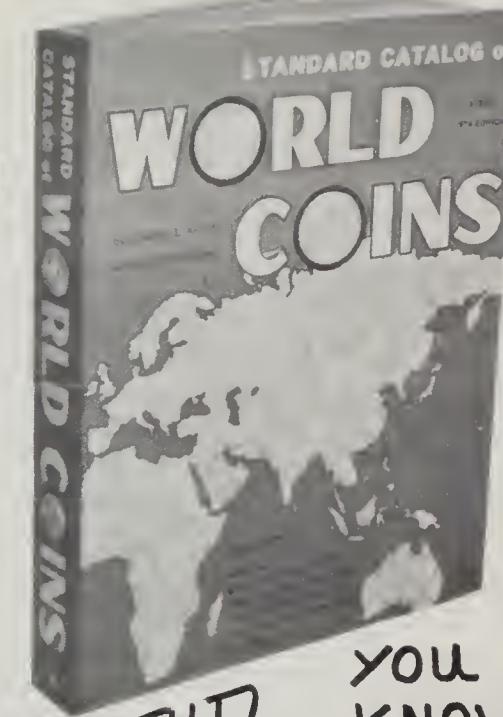
The China and India native states sections are by far the most comprehensive and detailed ever presented. Listings for the countries of Spanish America commence in the 1820's with the first post-independence issues. This edition also presents completely revised listings for a number of countries including Russia, Nepal, Tibet, Greece, Spain, Romania, and Austria.

Priced at \$12.50, the 1974 STANDARD CATALOG OF WORLD COINS is available from most hobby shows handling coin books or direct from the publisher:

Krause Publications, Inc.
Iola, Wisconsin 54945

BOOKS

Spotlight On Education



DID YOU KNOW?

Many foreign coins have center holes and historians have attributed this unusual design to two basic reasons. The first reason was to make them easily identifiable by their shape, especially in regions where the population was mostly illiterate and needed help to identify the value of a coin by its appearance.

The second reason was to enable the consumer to handle and carry the coins which were usually small denominations strung on a wire or string for easier carrying (a practice carried over into transit tokens of the early 1900's in the United States).

The most common of the holed coins appear to be the copper "cash" coins of China and Japan.

Sometimes these coins were assembled in the intricately woven design of a sword with a metallic base around which they were grouped. These "swords" of hundreds of "cash" coins were suspended over the headrest of the bed of their owner, and were supposed to placate evil spirits and preserve their owner from ill health.

Holed coins have been issued in many countries including Australia, Belgium Congo, British Guinea, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone in addition to China and Japan.

Calendar of Numismatic Events

SHOW CALENDAR - 1974

March 31 - Madison
April 7 - Appleton
14 - EASTER
21 - Beaver Dam
Eau Claire
South Shore Milwaukee
28 -
May 4-5 - N.O.W. Waukesha
12 - Monroe
19 - Oshkosh
26 - Wausau
June 2 -
9 -
16 -
23 -
.

MAN PAYS FOR CAR WITH LINCOLN CENTS

Automobile salesman Roy Gibson knew what to expect when he sold a new car recently to a customer who had paid cash (\$1000 in Lincoln cents) for a car he purchased two years ago. After selling the customer up to a more expensive model, Gibson drove the biggest station wagon he could find to the customer's home when he went to collect payment: 207,580 Lincoln cents!

SHOP MOVING

When the new year arrives or shortly after, the Fox Valley Coin and Gun Exchange will move its Appleton headquarters to more spacious quarters in Kimberly, Wisconsin, six miles to the north of Appleton. The new address will be:

Fox Valley Coin and Gun Exchange
103 East Kimberly Avenue
Kimberly, Wis. 54136

NUMISMATISTS OF WISCONSIN

The Numismatists Of Wisconsin is a non-profit organization avowed to serve the collectors of the state of Wisconsin and its neighbors.

Dues are \$2.00 per year for individual club or dealer memberships, and entitle participants to N.O.W. NEWS, the state quarterly magazine. Among the services of the state organization are coin authentication, exhibit package service, speakers bureau, and show calendar coordination services.

Dues are collected each year at the spring annual convention and run a full year to the following convention. N.O.W. conventions assure state collectors of a major show within the state each year and sites are varied to provide all regions of Wisconsin with numismatic exposure.

State Officers and Governing Board

President

Richard Anderson - Menasha

Vice-President

Clifford Mishler - Iola

Secretary-Treasurer

Kurt Krueger
P.O. Box 9
North Prairie, Wis. 53153

Board of Governors

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Roy Miller - Racine
Marion Anderson - Menasha
Fred Voecks - Appleton
Clifford Manthe - Tomah
Gordon Gill - Madison
Mike Segersin - Green Bay
Gerald Johnson - Wisconsin Rapids
Harold Prieve - Portage
Art Zoellner - Marshfield
Gale Highsmith - Milwaukee
Floyd Janney - Waukesha

Past President

James Medd - Green Bay

N.O.W. NEWS

Gerald Johnson
1921 Chase Street
Wisconsin Rapids, Wis. 54494

NUMISMATISTS OF WISCONSIN
KURT KRUEGER
P.O. BOX 9
NORTH PRAIRIE, WIS. 53153



MAY THE WONDERFUL BLESSINGS OF CHRISTMAS
BE WITH YOU THROUGHOUT
THE NEW YEAR